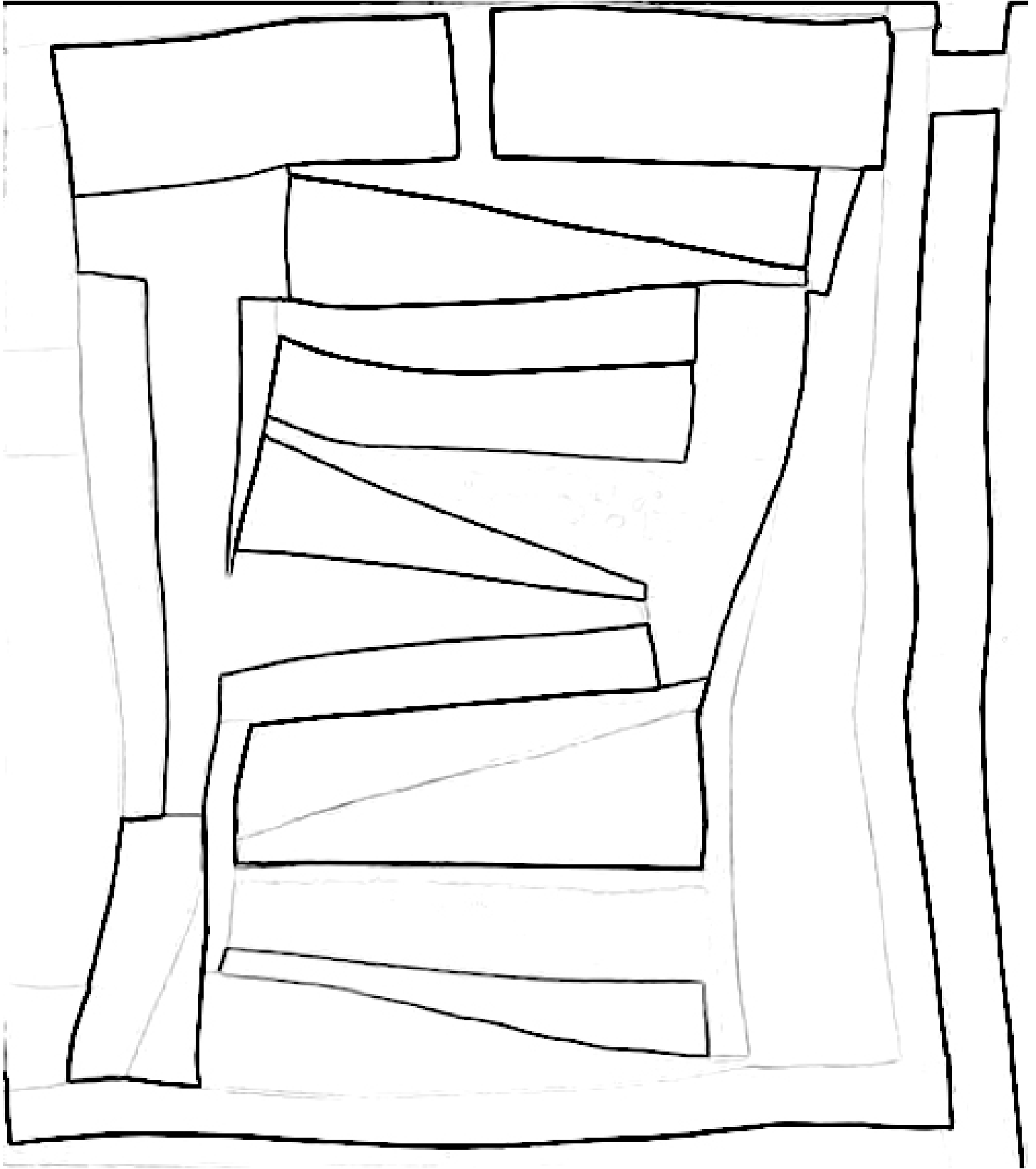


**COLOR**  OUR COLLECTIONS



*Old Beauty*, Loretta Pettway, 2007. Color softground and hardground etching with aquatint and spitbite aquatint  
Courtesy of the artist and Paulson Fontaine Press  
The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. Purchased with funds from the Art Collectors' Council and the Virginia Steele Scott Foundation Acquisition Fund for American Art



**THE HUNTINGTON**  
Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens

# About the Object



Loretta Pettway is one of the women in the Gee's Bend Quilters Collective in Gee's Bend, Alabama. Since the 19th century, women in Gee's Bend have quilted, transforming everyday scraps of fabric and clothing fragments into beautiful quilts for warmth. Now, their quilts are exhibited in museums worldwide. They are no longer considered to be only practical objects, they are also considered works of art much like many decorative art items in the collection. This image, however, is not a quilt, but a print of a quilt. Loretta Pettway was one of a handful of quilters to travel to Berkeley, California, to work with Paulson Fontaine Press to transform their quilts into prints through a process known as intaglio printing.

Zoom into the work ([emuseum.huntington.org/objects/58031/old-beauty?ctx=accfaff215464b0495676ab721670587ffae91e0&idx=5](http://emuseum.huntington.org/objects/58031/old-beauty?ctx=accfaff215464b0495676ab721670587ffae91e0&idx=5)) and click here: ([emuseum.huntington.org/collections/4693/art-collectors-council-1995-2019/objects/images?](http://emuseum.huntington.org/collections/4693/art-collectors-council-1995-2019/objects/images?)) to explore other works by the Gee's Bend Quilters Collective and Paulson Fontaine Press. Read about Loretta Pettway and her quilts: [paulsonfontainepress.com/artist/gees-bend-pettway/](http://paulsonfontainepress.com/artist/gees-bend-pettway/)

Interested in seeing how quilts become prints? Watch this short video by Paulson Fontaine Press: [youtube.com/watch?v=w5jGtm2rplo](https://youtube.com/watch?v=w5jGtm2rplo)

## More to Explore...

### DESIGN A QUILT

If you were going to make your own quilt, how would it look? Would you opt for a geometric pattern like Loretta Pettway? Or would you want to illustrate a scene? Would your quilt be monochrome, ombre, or a variety of colors? On a piece of paper, sketch out your quilt. How does your quilt reflect who you are?

#### Helpful Terms:

**Intaglio** – A type of printmaking where the illustration or design is carved into a metal plate creating grooves for ink. Etching and aquatint are two of the five types of Intaglio printing used to create Old Beauty.

**Etching** – A type of printmaking where the illustration or design is carved into a metal plate. See step-by-step photos of the engraving process by the Metropolitan Museum of Art here: [metmuseum.org/about-the-met/curatorial-departments/drawings-and-prints/materials-and-techniques/printmaking/etching](http://metmuseum.org/about-the-met/curatorial-departments/drawings-and-prints/materials-and-techniques/printmaking/etching)

**Aquatint** – A type of printmaking that allows for shading or tones to be produced. Read more about aquatint here: [metmuseum.org/toah/hd/aqtn/hd\\_aqtn.htm](http://metmuseum.org/toah/hd/aqtn/hd_aqtn.htm)

## QUESTION CORNER

How were the colors you chose for the coloring page different or similar to the real print?

- **What do you think is the original artwork? The quilt? Or the print? Or are they both? What makes you think that?**
- **Learning how to quilt was a skill passed down from generation to generation in Gee's Bend. Is there a skill you learned that was passed down to you? If so, do you feel it is part of your identity?**



Turn your drawn quilt into a real one! You can use a sewing machine or just a needle and thread. You can use discarded fabrics or clothing. It is up to you. Think about the texture of each fabric and how they would feel stitched together on a quilt.